

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) A method of updating a first version of a device driver installed on a computer of a user, the method comprising:

~~requesting~~ transmitting, ~~[[from]]~~ to an office device by the first version of the device driver installed on the computer, a request for version information of a newest version of the device driver that is stored in a memory of the office device, the first version of the device driver being programmed to transmit the request to the office device;

receiving, from the office device to which the computer is communicatively coupled, the version information of the newest version of the device driver that is stored in the memory of the office device, wherein both the first version and the newest version of the device driver are configured to control operations of the office device;

determining, based on the received version information, whether the first version of the device driver installed on the computer is different from the newest version of the device driver stored in said memory;

if the determining step determines that the first version is different from the newest version, inquiring whether the user wants to update the device driver on the computer with the newest version of the device driver; and

if the inquiring step determines that the user wants to update the device driver, obtaining the newest version of the device driver from the office device.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the inquiring step comprises:

displaying, on a display associated with the computer, a message regarding whether the user wants to update the device driver; and

receiving a response from the user, said response indicating whether the user wants to update the device driver with the newest version.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the obtaining step comprises:

establishing a connection to the office device;

receiving, from the office device, an installation file for the newest version of the device driver; and

storing said installation file in a temporary storage area associated with the computer.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, further comprising:

executing the stored installation file to install the newest version of the device driver on the computer.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, further comprising:

generating commands and associated data for controlling said office device, prior to said receiving step.

36. (Currently Amended) A system for updating a first version of a device driver installed on a computer of a user, the system comprising:

means for ~~requesting~~ transmitting, ~~[[from]]~~ to an office device by the first version of the device driver installed on the computer, a request for version information of a newest version of the device driver that is stored in a memory of the office device, the first version of the device driver being programmed to transmit the request to the office device;

means for receiving, from the office device to which the computer is communicatively coupled, the version information of the newest version of the device driver stored in the memory of the office device, wherein both the first version and the newest version of the device driver are configured to control operations of the office device;

means for determining, based on the received version information, whether the first version of the device driver installed on the computer is different from the newest version of the device driver stored in said memory;

if the means for determining determines that the first version is different from the newest version, means for inquiring whether the user wants to update the device driver on the computer with the newest version of the device driver; and

if the means for inquiring determines that the user wants to update the device driver, means for obtaining the newest version of the device driver from the office device.

37. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, wherein the means for inquiring comprises:

means for displaying, on a display associated with the computer, a message regarding whether the user wants to update the device driver; and

means for receiving a response from the user, said response indicating whether the user wants to update the device driver with the newest version.

38. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, wherein the means for obtaining comprises:

means for establishing a connection to the office device;

means for receiving, from the office device, an installation file for the newest version of the device driver; and

means for storing said installation file in a temporary storage area associated with the computer.

39. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 38, further comprising:

means for executing the stored installation file to install the newest version of the device driver on the computer.

40. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, further comprising:

means for generating commands and associated data for controlling said office device.

41. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium storing plural computer program instructions which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to update a first version of a device driver installed on the computer, by performing the steps of:

~~requesting~~ transmitting, ~~[[from]]~~ to an office device by the first version of the device driver installed on the computer, a request for version information of a newest version of the device driver that is stored in a memory of the office device, the first version of the device driver being programmed to transmit the request to the office device;

receiving, from the office device to which the computer is communicatively coupled, the version information of the newest version of the device driver stored in the memory of the

office device, wherein both the first version and the newest version of the device driver are configured to control operations of the office device;

determining, based on the received version information, whether the first version of the device driver installed on the computer is different from the newest version of the device driver stored in said memory;

if the determining step determines that the first version is different from the newest version, inquiring whether a user wants to update the device driver on the computer with the newest version of the device driver; and

if the inquiring step determines that the user wants to update the device driver, obtaining the newest version of the device driver from the office device.

42. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 41, wherein the inquiring step comprises:

displaying, on a display associated with the computer, a message regarding whether the user wants to update the device driver; and

receiving a response from the user, said response indicating whether the user wants to update the device driver with the newest version.

43. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 41, wherein the obtaining step comprises:

establishing a connection to the office device;

receiving, from the office device, an installation file for the newest version of the device driver; and

storing said installation file in a temporary storage area associated with the computer.

44. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 43, further comprising:

executing the stored installation file to install the newest version of the device driver on the computer.

45. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 41, further comprising:

generating commands and associated data for controlling said office device.

46. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

an office device configured to store a newest version of a device driver stored in a memory, wherein the device driver is configured to control the office device;

a computer having a first version of the device driver installed thereon, the computer including a processor

configured to execute the first version of the device driver, which ~~requests~~ transmits, [[from]] to the office device, a request for version information of the newest version of the device drive stored in the memory of the office device, the first version of the device driver being programmed to transmit the request to the office device;

configured to receive, from the office device, the version information of the newest version of the device driver stored in the memory of the office device;

configured to determine, based on the received version information, whether the first version of the device driver installed on the computer is different from the newest version of the device driver stored in said memory;

if the first version is different from the newest version, configured to inquire whether a user wants to update the device driver on the computer with the newest version of the device driver; and

if the user wants to update the device driver, configured to obtain the newest version of the device driver from the office device.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the office device is a printer and the device driver is configured to control operations of the printer.

48. (New) The method of claim 31, further comprising:
receiving, by the office device, the newest version of the device driver from a service center.